

Claims:

1. A customer premises equipment for use with a local switch in a broadband multimedia telecommunications system, the switch having a trunk interface coupled to an optical network carrying a first plurality of audio/visual channels and a line interface for coupling to a digital subscriber line consisting of a single copper twisted pair, said customer premises equipment comprising:

a) dsl coupling means for coupling to the digital subscriber line;

b) audio/video coupling means for coupling to an audio/video output device; and

c) channel selection means coupled to said dsl coupling means and said audio/video coupling means for selecting a channel from among the first plurality of channels for transmission from the local switch to said customer premises equipment.

2. A customer premises equipment according to claim 1, further comprising:

d) pc coupling means for coupling a personal computer to said customer premises equipment, wherein

the optical network is coupled to the internet.

3. A customer premises equipment according to claim 2, further comprising:

e) telephone coupling means for coupling a telephone to said customer premises equipment, wherein
the digital subscriber line is coupled to POTS.

4. A customer premises equipment according to claim 2, further comprising:

e) telephone coupling means for coupling a telephone to said customer premises equipment, wherein
the optical network is coupled to the PSTN.

5. A customer premises equipment according to claim 2, wherein:
said pc coupling means includes an Ethernet interface.

6. A customer premises equipment according to claim 1, wherein
said audio/video coupling means includes an ATM-25 interface.

7. A customer premises equipment according to claim 6, wherein:
said audio/video coupling means includes a digital set top box coupled to said ATM-25 interface.

8. A customer premises equipment according to claim 4, wherein:

said telephone coupling means includes digital signal processing means and POTS emulation means for converting analog POTS signals to digital signals for transport over the optical network to the PSTN and for converting digital signals received from the PSTN over the optical network to analog POTS signals.

9. A customer premises equipment according to claim 1, wherein:

said dsl coupling means includes a dsl modem and a UTOPIA interface.

10. A customer premises equipment according to claim 7, wherein:

said ste top box includes an MPEG decoder coupled to said ATM-25 interface, a digital to analog converter coupled to said MPEG decoder, and an NTSC encoder coupled to said digital to analog converter.